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BILL NO.: SB 70

TITLE: Transportation – Change in Bus Service – Impacts Report

SPONSOR: Senator McCray

COMMITTEE: Finance

POSITION: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

DATE: January 31, 2024

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENTS** Senate Bill 70 – Transportation – Change in Bus Service – Impacts Report. This legislation would require the Maryland Transportation Authority to compile and publish a report on the impact of the cancellation or reduction in service, before the cancellation or reduction in service on any bus route,. The MTA would additionally be responsible for distributing the report and holding public hearings on the report.

Baltimore County supports this bill because it would notify local communities of any adverse effect in changes to MTA’s bus service. This is especially important as the State and Baltimore County enters a challenging budgetary season. By notifying the families who depend on these transit services of impending changes early, they can better prepare and Baltimore County can work to mitigate the burden on our residents. Baltimore County would encourage the sponsor to add local governments to the report’s distribution under section 7-508 (C) (II) of this legislation because changes in MTA’s service can adversely effect both the County’s circulator, the Towson Loop, and rideshare services such as CountyRide.

Accordingly, Baltimore County urges a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report on HB 29. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.